REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1-16 are pending and under consideration.

Gevins describes a method of measuring the positions of a plurality of EEG electrodes. In the Advisory Action dated September 22, 2004, the Examiner cites column 4, lines 7-9 of Gevins, which indicates that a vector is supplied to a mathematical computer pattern classifier has been trained to make a desired classification. Thus, Gevins teaches that the mathematical computer pattern classifiers are trained.

The text cited by the Examiner relates to the classification of a head shape, which can take place using a neural network. In contrast to this, the invention relates to a method of training a neural network and also to a method of classifying a sequence of input quantities. The features of the claimed invention are not disclosed in or suggested by Gevins. To relate the embodiment of Gevins with a possible embodiment for the present invention, the Examiner is referred to the attached diagram. The present invention would not be used for a head shape, but could be used for an EEG signal. That is, the invention could be used to classify an EEG signal, which is a series of input quantities.

Gevins classifies the shape of a head. By performing the classification, Gevins may achieve a better EEG measurement. On the other hand, one possible use for the present invention is with an EEG. The EEG produces a signal. By training a neural network, it may be possible to classify a continuous time sequence of the signal. Gevins is not concerned with the signal produced by the EEG. The present invention, assuming it is used for an EEG, is not concerned with steps that are performed beforehand to improve the EEG. The two processes are completely different.

In summary, the present invention may be used to classify a time series of input values, which is quite different from classifying the shape of a head, as is done in Gevins. It is also important to note that the individual claimed method steps for training the neural network are not mentioned in Gevins. Gevins recognizes that a neural network may be trained. However, any steps given in Gevins do not relate to that neural network.

In view of the foregoing and the arguments advanced previously, it is submitted that the claims patentably distinguish over the references cited by the Examiner. An early Notice of Allowance is courteously solicited.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: October 27, 2004

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Gevins

Head having a shape
↓
Classify head shape
↓
Better EEG

Invention

EEG (possible use, not necessary)
↓
Signal
↓
Training
↓
Classify Continuous Time Sequence